

Amendment of the Drawings:

The attached sheet 4 of the drawings include(s) changes to Fig. 5. This sheet, which includes Fig. 5, replaces the original sheet 4 including Fig. 5. A marked-up copy highlighting the change to Fig. 5 on sheet 4 is attached for the Examiner's review.

REMARKS

Drawings/Objections

The Examiner objected to the drawings because they lacked reference signs 16, 17 and K. On page 4, line 29, the reference to a cover 16 appears to be a typographical error. This error has been corrected by changing the number 16 to 11b, which has been used to refer to the cover throughout the specification and in Fig. 1. On page 4, line 12, the reference to shoulder 17 has been removed. In making this correction, the Applicant noted that the word "pair" should appear before the word "shoulders" and the appropriate correction has been made in the specification.

With respect to the reference to a keyway K, the Applicant has provided a substitute drawing sheet 4 showing the keyway, as it is described in the specification as a vertical slot formed in the receiver plate 31 and indicated this keyway with the reference letter K. Consequently, the Application requests reconsideration of the drawing objections.

Claim Objections

The Examiner objected to claim 8 as reciting "said top flange". The Applicant has removed the word "top to make claim 8 consistent with claim 1. Consequently, the Applicant requests reconsideration of this objection.

Claim Rejections

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 3 and 6-14 as anticipated by 6,607,103 to Gerenraich. The Examiner argues that Gerenraich shows a dispenser as seen in Figs. 5 and 6, having a clip seen in Fig. 6 used in connection with a soap container 22 and having a key-plate 44, a semi-circular hollow body 88, a flange 80 extending radially outward, a tab 126 extending rearward and vertical ribs as seen in Fig. 10, a rim extending downwardly as seen in Figs. 7 and locating notch 82, holding elements 84 and 92.

The Applicant respectfully disagrees because Gerenraich does not show an adapter clip as

claimed. Gerenraich differs significantly from the claimed invention in that keying is intended. The flange 80, to which the Examiner refers is not carried on the container but forms part of the dispenser base and acts as a horizontally extending frame and key-plate. As described in detail in column 3, lines 38-61, the frame 80 includes an opening through which a nozzle of the pump assembly extends causing the bottle assembly 22 to be supported on the frame 80 by upwardly extending posts 84 extending therefrom. A depression is formed in the surface of frame 80 to receive alternate styles of flanges to enable coupling in a unique and keyed manner with various bottle assemblies 22. Thus, it can be seen from Gerenraich that it does not contemplate an axially extending key-plate having a keyway formed in its axially extending surface, but relies on a horizontally extending key-plate with depressions that capture a flange in a designated radial position. As best shown in Fig. 5, Gerenraich's flange 74 is designed to rest within depression 82 (Fig. 6). This system contrasts with systems using an axially extending key-plate in that the key-plate does not restrict axial movement of the bottle. As described in column 3, lines 54-61 of Gerenraich, a snap arm 88 is provided to resist upward acting actuation forces that might dislodge the bottle from the frame. In contrast, the Applicant's invention is designed to bypass keying systems that have an axially extending key-plate. As claimed, the Applicant's invention includes a flange having a radially extending portion that extends above the axially extending key-plate and a tab that extends beneath the axially extending key-plate to secure the container against the upward acting forces of the pump. Ordinarily, a key projecting from the container's pump collar, would fit within the keyway formed in the axially extending key-plate to perform this function. By providing a flange and tabs capable of capturing the entire key-plate therebetween, the Applicant's adapter clip allows a container to be secured against the upward acting forces of the pump's actuation without a key and bypasses the keying system formed by the axially extending key-plate. To that end, the claimed adapter clip includes a hollow body that fits onto the container having an axially spaced flange and tabs that capture the key-plate as described. Gerenraich does not contemplate or disclose an axially spaced flange and tabs both located on a hollow body that is attached to a container. Therefore, Gerenraich does not anticipate claim 1 nor those claims that depend from it.

Similarly, claim 12 claims an adapter clip having a rim that extends over a portion of a receiver and a pair of tabs that extend rearwardly from the body of the clip and are insertable beneath the receiver to capture the receiver therebetween. Again, in this way, the claimed universal adapter clip avoids any keying system formed on the receiver yet secures the container against unwanted axial movement ordinarily prevented by the keying system. Again, Gerenraich does not disclose such a rim and tabs and does not contemplate the avoidance of such a keying system.

Claim 13 and 14 are also allowable for the same reasons because claim 13 claims a top flange having a radially extending portion that fits over the key-plate and tabs that extend beneath the key-plate to capture it therebetween. Also, claim 13 defines the separate allowable feature of the top flange having an inwardly extending portion that engages the container to support the clip on the container. Also claim 13 claims the clip as having a semi-circular body that opens on a rearward side, which prevents the adapter clip from interfering with the insertion of the container. This feature is not disclosed in Gerenraich. Claim 14 depends from claim 13 and contains an additional feature of a rim that extends downward from the top flange and is adapted to engage at top surface of the key-plate.

Since Gerenraich does not disclose a hollow body having an axially spaced flange and tabs adapted to bypass keying systems having an axially extending key-plate, the Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the foregoing rejections.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Applicant acknowledges the Examiner's indication that claims 2 and 4-5 contain allowable subject matter.

Conclusion

In light of the foregoing, the Applicant believes that claims 1-14 are in condition for allowance and respectfully request notice of the same.

Should the Examiner wish to discuss any of the foregoing in more detail, the undersigned attorney would welcome a telephone call.

No new claims have been added and therefore no additional fees are believed due at this time. Nonetheless, in the event that a fee required for the filing of this document is missing or insufficient, the undersigned attorney hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge payment of any fees associated with this communication or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 18-0987.

Respectfully submitted,



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